

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

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R 171050Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5617

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 7089

STATE PASS DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SEARBY EB/CBA

COMMERCE PASS T. JOHNSON/OIM/DIBA/LA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, BGEN, BR

SUBJECT: TESTIMONIAL MESSAGES FOR RETURNING EXEC OF AMERICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE IN SAO PAULO

1. CONGEN SAO PAULO HAS RECEIVED REQUEST FROM AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN SAO PAULO -- THE SECOND LARGEST IN LATIN AMERICA WITH A MEMBERSHIP OF 1,900 -- FOR WRITTEN TESTIMONIALS FROM U.S. OFFICIALS RELATING TO THE RETIREMENT OF ARTHUR BENNETT, FOR 30 YEARS THE EXECUTIVE-SECRETARY OF THE CHAMBER. BENNETT, WHO BUILT THE CHAMBER FROM A 1945 MEMBERSHIP OF 350 TO ITS PRESENT SIZE, IS A WELL KNOWN AND HIGHLY RESPECTED MEMBER OF THE BRAZILIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY. HE IS BRAZILIAN-BORN BUT COMES FROM AN ENGLISH FAMILY.

2. THE TESTIMONIALS, WHICH WOULD BE THE USUAL KIND OF QUOTE CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU FOR A GOOD JOB WELL DONE UNQUOTE WOULD BE PRESENTED TO BENNETT AT A MAJOR FAREWELL DINNER BEING GIVEN HIM IN SAO PAULO ON OCTOBER 29. THE BUSINESS ELITE OF THIS CITY, INCLUDING MANY OF THE IMPORTANT BUSINESSMEN IN BRAZIL, ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.

3. ALTHOUGH THE CHAMBER HAS PROVIDED THE CONGEN WITH SPECIAL
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PARCHMENT PAPER ON WHICH THE TESTIMONIALS COULD BE WRITTEN, IT

ISSUNDERSTOOD THAT THIS MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR WASHINGTON CONTRIBUTORS, AND THAT CABLED MESSAGES WOULD HAVE TO BE USED AND, IF DESIRED, TRANSCRIBED HERE. SPECIFICALLY, THE CHAMBER WOULD APPRECIATE MESSAGES FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER, FORMER AMBASSADOR ROUNTREE, AND FORMER COUNSULS GENERAL NILES BOND, ROBERT CORRIGAN AND DANIEL BRADDOCK. CHAMBER REQUESTING MESSAGE FROM COMMERCE SECRETARY DENT DIRECTLY.

4. CONGEN FULLY APPRECIATES DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN OBTAINING SOME OF THE ABOVE TESTIMONIALS, BUT IN VIEW OF IMPORTANT OF U.S. BUSINESS PRESENCE IN BRAZIL AND THE FACT THAT BENNETT HAS CONTRIBUTED GREAT DEAL TO BUILDING AN ORGANIZATION WHICH NOW SERVES AS A VITAL FORCE WITHIN THE BRAZILIAN BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT, ANY CONTRIBUTIONS CBA COULD OBTAIN WOULD BE APPRECIATED. CONGEN CAN FORWARD PARCHMENT PAPER IF DEEMED APPRECIATE. CRIMMINS

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